

PLYMPTON ST. MARY
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1945

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR



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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Telephone No. Plympton 2244.

Medical Officer of Health:

DR. W. C. SMALES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

DR. S. NOY SCOTT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Chief Sanitary Inspector—

MR. R. T. FEDRICK, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

(Also Inspector of Meat and other Foods, and Petroleum Inspector)

Sanitary Inspectors:

MR. R. OSBORNE, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

(Also Inspector of Meat and other Foods)

MR. C. E. JEFFRIES, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

(Also Inspector of Meat and other Foods)

(Resigned 31.1.46)

MR. A. C. N. GULLY, A.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

(Appointed 1.4.46)

Clerk:

MISS G. H. PROWSE

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
of the
PLYMPTON ST. MARY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the district for the year 1945. The report has been drawn up as far as possible in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 28/46 of 11th February, 1946.

The health of the district has been very satisfactory during the year ; the incidence of Diphtheria being the lowest recorded for some years.

I should like to record the excellent work of the Civil Defence Casualty Services in this district during the period of the War.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

W. C. SMALES,

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1946.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area—70,268 acres, of which 174 are inland water.

Population—1931 Census	26,799
,, estimated to the middle of 1945	29,560

General

Rateable Value	£189,717
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Amount produced by a 1d. Rate—

£774. 6s. 5d.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1945

Live Births	Total	M.	F.	
Legitimate	450	218	232	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident popu- lation, 16.37
Illegitimate	34	17	17	
	—	—	—	
	484	235	249	
	—	—	—	
Still Births	4	2	2	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births), 8.19
Deaths	421	227	194	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 14.24

Deaths from Puerperal causes (headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List),—

	<i>Rate per 1,000 Total</i>
	<i>Deaths (live and still births)</i>

No. 29. Puerperal and Post Abortive

Sepsis	Nil	Nil
--------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

No. 30. Other Maternal causes	...	Nil	Nil
-------------------------------	-----	-----	-----

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	41.32
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...			42.22
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				29.41
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	63
„ Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	—
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	—
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	..	...		—

CAUSES OF DEATH

				Males	Females	1945	1944
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid							
Fevers	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	1	—	1	3	
3. Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	—	1	
5. Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory							
system	...	...	11	5	16	14	
7. Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	3	1	4	5		
8. Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	—	—	—	1	

CAUSES OF DEATH—*continued*

					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	1945	1944
9.	Influenza	...	...	...	2	1	3	2
10.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio- Encephalitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
12.	Acute Infantile Encephalitis	...	...	...	1	—	1	—
13.	Cancer of b. cav. and oesoph. (M.), Uterus (F.)	...	...	...	1	1	2	8
14.	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	11	8	19	6
15.	Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	—	6	6	4
16.	Cancer of all other Sites	...	...	...	21	15	36	36
17.	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	4	5	7
18.	Intra. Cran. Vasc. Lesions	...	...	...	20	20	40	49
19.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	62	48	110	90
20.	Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	...	...	...	4	8	12	8
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	9	5	14	20
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	5	5	10	9
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	3	2	5	4
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	5	3	8	4
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	—	—	—	1
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	1	1	2	4
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	5	3	8	9
28.	Nephritis	...	...	...	5	7	12	11
29.	Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
30.	Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	—	—	—	2
31.	Premature Birth	...	...	...	4	1	5	6
32.	Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries, Infant Disorders	...	...	...	4	1	5	8
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	1	1	2	4
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	..	...	...	1	1	2	5
35.	Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	8	3	11	23
36.	All Other Causes	...	...	...	38	44	82	53
					227	194	421	397

Deaths from **Cancer** are 9 more than last year, and those from **Heart Disease** are 20 more.

Of the 63 deaths due to Cancer, 33 were males and 30 were females.

Deaths over 65

There were 316, viz. :—44 between 65 and 70

70	„	70	„	75
82	„	75	„	80
62	„	80	„	85
35	„	85	„	90
21	„	90	„	95
2	„	95	„	100

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The total number of notifications was 808 as compared with 159 during the previous year. The increased notifications were largely due to cases of measles and whooping cough, which, although prevalent, were of a mild nature.

There was one case of Para Typhoid fever during the year.

Scarlet Fever

Scarlet Fever was also more prevalent, 70 cases being notified compared with 39 during the previous year. They were of a mild type, and one case proved after investigation to be Glandular Fever.

16 cases were admitted to Hospital at a cost of £295. 15s. 0d., the average cost per patient being £18. 9s. 8d.

The average stay in Hospital was 34 days.

Medical practitioners are encouraged to treat at home all mild cases of Scarlet Fever whenever a reasonable degree of isolation can be obtained in the patient's home, unless in the patient's interest hospital treatment is indicated.

TABLE SHOWING PREVALENCE OF SCARLET FEVER IN SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT,
YEAR 1945.

SCHOOL	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Cornwood Primary	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Goosewell Primary	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	5
Hooe Primary	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	1	6
Ivybridge Modern Secondary	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Newton Ferrers Primary	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Noss Mayo Primary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Oreston Primary	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	5
Plympton Grammar	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	3
Plympton Primary	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Plympton St. Mary Primary	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Plympton St. Maurice Primary	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Plympton Modern Secondary	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Plymstock Modern Secondary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Tamerton Foliot Primary	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Private	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
TOTALS	5	6	1	2	3	4	1	1	2	5	7	4	41

Diphtheria

There was again a decline in the number of cases of Diphtheria, 14 cases being notified as compared with 18 for the previous year. Six of the cases notified proved after further investigation not to be Diphtheria.

The disease was generally of a mild type and there were no deaths.

13 cases were admitted to Hospital at a cost of £313. 0s. 0d., the average cost per patient being £24. 1s. 6d.

The average stay in hospital was 45 days.

During the year 27 swabs were submitted to the County Laboratory in connection with Diphtheria cases, contacts and suspects, and in following up cases after discharge from Hospital.

Every attempt should be made by means of bus or passenger train services, special messenger, or by personal delivery to ensure that the swab reaches the laboratory in as short a time as possible after it is taken.

In urgent cases swabs may be sent to the Laboratory at the Prince of Wales's Hospital, Plymouth.

I would again emphasize that in the treatment of Diphtheria serum should be given at the earliest possible moment, and preferably in one adequately large dose.

The doctor should never wait for the laboratory report before giving antitoxin if he considers on clinical grounds that the patient may be suffering from Diphtheria.

It is important to obtain immediate medical advice in cases of suspected Diphtheria.

Para-Typhoid Fever

One case occurred during the year and was removed to hospital.

The water supply in this instance was obtained from a private well which was found to be liable to contamination. A sample of the water from this well was found to contain B.Coli of faecal type in 1 m.m. This water supply was immediately abandoned and replaced by water from the Council's mains.

The following cases were also admitted to Hospital during the year :—

3 cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

Disinfection

Disinfection of premises is carried out by the Council's employees under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors.

TABLE SHOWING PREVALENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT.
YEAR 1945.

SCHOOL	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Ivybridge Modern Secondary	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Plympton Modern Secondary	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2

PAROCHIAL DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR YEAR 1945.

DISEASE.	Bickleigh	Brixton	Cornwood	Ermington	Harford	Holbeton	Ivybridge	Newton and Noss	Plympton St. Mary	Plympton St. Maurice	Plymstock	Shaugh Prior	Tamerton Foliot	Wembury	Yealinton	Totals
SCARLET FEVER	-	-	7	3	-	-	4	4	13	8	25	-	5	1	-	70
DIPHTHERIA	-	1	-	1	-	-	6	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	14
ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
PNEUMONIA	-	3	3	1	-	-	1	5	6	-	5	1	-	-	4	29
PARA-TYPHOID	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
ERYSIPELAS	-	1	2	-	-	1	2	2	1	-	2	1	-	-	1	13
WHOOPING COUGH	-	-	23	-	-	2	4	19	75	5	43	13	-	1	9	194
MEASLES	-	12	25	16	-	27	18	12	106	11	148	8	5	5	76	469
CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
PUERPERAL PYREXIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
DYSENTERY	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	8
MALARIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	4
TOTALS	-	17	60	21	-	30	41	42	208	24	233	24	11	7	90	808

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) AND TOTAL DEATHS
DURING THE YEAR 1945.**

[illegible]

TUBERCULOSIS. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1945.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES				DEATHS						Total No. of Cases	Total No. of Deaths
	PULMONARY.		Non-PULMONARY.		PULMONARY.			Non-PULMONARY.				
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total			
Under 1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
5—10	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	2	2	2
10—15	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
15—20	3	3	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—
20—25	5	3	8	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	8	2
25—35	4	3	7	—	—	—	5	2	—	—	7	7
35—45	6	3	9	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	10	1
45—55	5	2	7	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	7	3
55—65	5	—	5	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	5	2
65 and upwards	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS	29	15	44	—	5	5	11	4	1	15	49	18

With regard to the extent of notification before death, the following table shows the date of notification :—

<i>Sex</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Date Notified</i>	<i>Died</i>
M.	27	15/ 3/37	7/ 3/45
M.	54	20/10/38	19/ 2/45
M.	37	30/ 5/40	15/ 7/45
M.	34	13/11/40	11/ 3/45
F.	34	18/ 4/41	—/ 9/45
M.	53	4/ 6/42	8/10/45
M.	25	29/10/42	8/ 8/45
M.	27	14/11/42	16/ 6/45
F.	22	5/ 3/44	11/11/45
F.	22	3/ 2/45	1/ 7/45
M.	61	10/ 2/45	18/ 2/45
M.	49	17/ 4/45	15/ 7/45
M.	25	24/ 4/45	26/ 5/45
M.	56	12/ 7/45	24/ 8/45
F.	2	20/10/45	18/10/45

The remainder were not notified in this District previous to death.

With regard to Tuberculosis affecting employees in the milk trade, no case had to be dealt with, nor had any action to be taken with regard to the compulsory removal to Hospital under Section 172, Public Health Act, 1936.

SCHOOLS

Exclusions

During the year 80 notices were received referring to 322 children who were excluded from School because of communicable disease or because they were contacts in infected houses.

They were as follows :—Diphtheria, 3 ; Scarlet Fever, 29 ; Chicken Pox, 57 ; Measles, 114 ; Whooping Cough, 70 ; Impetigo, 9 ; Mumps, 28 ; Scabies, 10 ; German Measles, 1 ; Meningitis, 1.

Diphtheria Immunisation

This campaign is pursued vigorously in the district. The Health Visitors (Devon County Council) keep in close touch with the Public Health Department of this Council and the parents of all children are informed before their children reach the age of 1 year that they should be protected. Many School children of 5 years and upwards are also receiving re-inforcing doses.

Clinics were held on 32 occasions when 313 children received two injections, 120 the first injection only, and 54 a re-inforcing injection. In addition, many parents get their children protected privately by their family doctor. It is difficult to obtain an accurate record of these.

It is estimated that about 95% of children of school age have now been protected, and 75% of the children under 5 years.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Nursing Arrangements.—The Medical Officer of Health is empowered to engage and pay for home Nursing when he considers it necessary and when it cannot be provided otherwise.

There are district Nursing Associations in Plympton St. Mary, Plympton St. Maurice, Shaugh Prior, Cornwood, Yealmpton, Brixton and Ivybridge, which are maintained by private subscriptions, aided by grants from the Devon County Council.

District Nurses.—There are seven District Nurses in the Rural District.

Health Visitors.—There are three working in the Plympton Area. They also act as School Nurses, Tuberculosis and Child Life Protection visitors.

Midwives.—The Midwives Act is administered by the County Council which investigates cases of Maternal Mortality and Puerperal Disease. There are 10 practising midwives in the District.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

Maternity and Child Welfare.—The Devon County Council have six centres in the District: Plympton, Plymstock, Ivybridge, Yealmpton, Tamerton Foliot and Wotter.

Venereal Diseases Clinic.—At the Venereal Disease Dept., City Hospital, Plymouth. Female in-patients are also sent to St. Mary's Home, Exeter. A refund of rail or bus fare can be made in suitable cases by applying to the Medical Officer of the Centre or to the County Medical Officer.

Where on account of the difficulty of travelling or other reason a patient is unable to attend the centre, free treatment can be obtained from certain specified general practitioners who have been approved by the Ministry of Health under Circular 2226.

In-patient Orthopaedic Treatment is available through the Devon Association for Orthopaedics at Exeter and Ivybridge, and for adults at Mount Gold Hospital, Plymouth. For Out-Patients the South West Clinic which deals with this district is held at the Mutley Hall Assembly Rooms, Plymouth.

X-rays.—The Devon County Council have Clinics at Exeter, Torquay and Barnstaple.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum cases are admitted at any time to the Treatment Centre, City Hospital, Plymouth. In Midwives cases, free treatment is available.

Tuberculosis.—There is a sanatorium at Hawkmoor, Bovey Tracy, to which an extension is now being made.

There are also the following hospitals: Hawley Hospital, Barnstaple, and Ivybank Hospital, Exeter.

Open-Air School.—For delicate children. Oaklands Park, Dawlish (Devon County Council).

North Devon Open-Air School and Convalescent Home, Lynton (Private). Recognised by the Board of Education.

There is a Tuberculosis Officer who visits the district in consultation with practitioners. A number of patients are sent to the Clinic at Torquay for an opinion and radiography, but the majority of patients are seen in their homes and X-rayed at Plymouth, the skiagrams sent to the Tuberculosis Officer.

Institutional Provision for married and unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children.

Underwood House, Plympton (Plympton St. Mary Public Assistance Committee).

Temporary arrangements with Ministry of Health Short Stay Residential Nursery, Coombe Royal, Kingsbridge.

General Hospitals, used by residents :—

Prince of Wales's Hospital (Greenbank Section), Plymouth.

„ „ (Devonport Section).

„ „ Lockyer Street, Plymouth.

The City Hospital, Plymouth.

The Royal Eye Infirmary, Plymouth.

The Ear and Throat Hospital, Plymouth.

The House of Rest, Plympton.

The Convalescent Home, Crownhill.

Plymouth Public Dispensary.

Isolation Hospital.—None in the District, but by arrangement with the Plymouth City Council, infectious cases requiring Hospital treatment may be sent to the City Isolation Hospital. The charge made by the Plymouth Corporation is now 15/- a day plus the cost of removal.

Arrangements were also made with the Kingsbridge R.D.C. to send cases to the Auxiliary Isolation Hospital at Modbury. This hospital was transferred in March to Lower Combe Royal, Kingsbridge, which closed in November.

Small Pox Hospital.—The Plympton Rural District Council have allowed the Plymouth Corporation to use their Small Pox Hospital at Lee Mill as a Nurses' Home in connection with the Lee Mill Isolation Hospital, so there is now no accommodation available in the district for cases of Small Pox. Accommodation is available, however, at the Devon County Council Small Pox Hospital at Upton Pyne, near Exeter.

Ambulance Facilities for Infectious Cases.—No ambulance is available locally and often great difficulty is experienced in the removal of infectious cases to hospital.

Non-Infectious Cases and Accidents.—The St. John Ambulance Association provide cars.

Laboratory Work.—The County Council have at Exeter a Bacteriological Laboratory for the investigation of communicable diseases as bearing upon Public Health, and for the provision of a diagnostic and consultative bacteriological service for patients, and also for the examination of milk and water from public supplies.

Use is also made of the Plymouth Laboratory for work of a specially urgent nature.

Consultants.—Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia are investigated by the County Council, who have appointed Consultants who are available for consultation by Medical Practitioners in cases of Puerperal Pyrexia or of any abnormality of pregnancy or child-birth.

Before calling in Consultants, other than in cases of urgency, the County Medical Officer must be consulted.

Provision of Anti-Toxin.—Diphtheria Anti-Toxin is provided free of cost by the district Council and supplied on the Authority of the Medical Officer of Health to any Medical man practising in the district. Early and adequate doses should be given.

Scabies.—The incidence of scabies in the district is low. All cases are treated with Benzyl Benzoate.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply of the district has been satisfactory, both in quantity and quality, with the exception of high levels at Plymstock and Newton Ferrers, where shortage has been experienced, especially at week-ends. A large camp is located at Newton Ferrers, which is at the end of the distribution system, and consumption has considerably increased there during the war. Measures are being taken to deal with the supply in this area.

The Plympton St. Mary R.D.C. Act, 1945, makes provision for obtaining water from the River Erme in order to improve the water supplies of the district, and to provide sufficient water for estimated future requirements. When the provisions of this Act are carried out it will be possible to augment present supplies and to afford a satisfactory supply to all parts of the district. This would also provide for agricultural needs.

Ivybridge Water Supply is derived from a 4 million gallon open reservoir (850 O.D.) fed from the Butter Brook, on the moor at Harford. An area of 5 acres is fenced. The supply varies considerably with weather conditions and is treated with chloros (drip feed). Occasional unsatisfactory samples occur after heavy rainfall.

In no instance was the presence of lead detected in any of the samples submitted for chemical examination.

All water from the Yealm Head, Ivybridge and Lee Moor supplies is chlorinated.

It is estimated that about 77% of the houses in the district are served by mains, 16% are supplied by means of standpipes, the remaining 7% being supplied from private sources.

Approximately 75% of the population are served from the mains, 17% from standpipes, and 8% from private supplies.

<i>Source</i>	<i>No. of samples</i>	<i>B. Coli Absent in 100 c.c.</i>	<i>B. Coli Present in 100 c.c.</i>
PLYMPTON 	4	1	3 (Non-Faecal)
YEALM HEAD 	4	3	1 (Non-Faecal)
IVYBRIDGE 	3	0	3 (2Non-Faecal)

Water supplies to the various parishes are as follows :—

Bickleigh. Supplied from mains of Plymouth Corporation.

Brixton. Supplied from Council's Yealm supply. Most of the houses have piped supplies. There are two standpipes in the village.

Brixton Torr, Coombe and Hornicombe are small places supplied by a local spring piped to standpipes.

Cornwood. Supplied from Yealm source, most of the houses have a piped supply. There are three standpipes in the village.

Lutton. Supplied from Yealm source, most of the houses have piped supply. There are six standpipes in the village.

Ermington. Supplied from Ivybridge Reservoir. Most of the houses have piped supply. There are three standpipes in the village.

Westlake and Longbrook are supplied by well and pump.

Harford. Few houses—have own supply from spring (private).

Holbeton. Supplied from local springs, piped to village. A few houses have a piped supply, but most of the cottages are supplied from standpipes.

Ivybridge. Supplied from Ivybridge Reservoir. Most houses have piped supply.

Newton and Noss. Supplied from Yealm source. Most of the houses have piped supply.

There are 10 standpipes at Newton supplying the older cottages and five standpipes at Noss supplying the older cottages.

Plympton St. Mary and Plympton St. Maurice. Supplied from Lee Moor and Yealm sources. Most of the houses have piped supply.

Sparkwell. Supplied from Yealm source. Most of the houses have piped supply. There are three standpipes which supply the older cottages.

Lee Mill. Supplied from Ivybridge Reservoir. Some of the houses have piped supply. There are seven standpipes in the village.

Mount Pleasant and Venton. Supplied from local springs by pump and standpipes.

Plymstock. Supplied from Yealm source. Most of the houses have piped supplies. There are six standpipes at Lower Hooe and Turnchapel.

Staddiscombe. Some of the cottages have piped supply. There are three standpipes in the village.

Shaugh Prior. Supplied from local source. Most of the houses have piped supply. There are four standpipes in the village.

Wotter. Supplied from local source. Most of the houses have piped supply. There are four standpipes which supply cottages of Dartmoor China Clay Co.

Tamerton Foliot. Supplied from mains of Plymouth Corporation.

Wembury. Supplied from Yealm source. Most of the houses have piped supply. There are three standpipes in the village.

Down Thomas. Supplied from Yealm source. Most houses have piped supply.

Yealmpton. Supplied from local springs, augmented from Yealm source in dry periods. Most houses have piped supply. There are eight standpipes in the village.

Dunstone. Supplied from local springs. Several cottages have piped supply. There are five standpipes in the village.

All the villages consisting of more than a dozen houses have a piped supply.

All supplies are constant.

Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

I. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health. (Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.)

PREMISES. (1)	NUMBER OF		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
FACTORIES with mechanical power	16	-	-
FACTORIES without mechanical power	11	-	-
OTHER PREMISES under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises). ...	-	-	-
TOTAL	27	-	-

Outworkers.—3 visits were made to the homes of outworkers, and conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS. (1)	NUMBER OF DEFECTS.				Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)		
Want of cleanliness (Sec. 1) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (Sec. 2) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (Sec. 3) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (Sec. 4) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (Sec. 6) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 7) {	-	-	-	-	-
	2	2	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Other Offences ...	-	-	-	-	-
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)					
TOTAL ...	2	2	-	-	-

HOUSING STATISTICS

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

(1)	(a)	Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1,176
	(b)	No. of inspections made for the purpose ...	1,386
(2)	(a)	No. of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	1,161
	(b)	No. of inspections made for the purpose ...	1,361
(3)		No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	213
(4)		No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	726

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	14
---	----

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	2
(2)	No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) By owners	2
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

- (1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied —
- (2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices,—
- (a) By owners —
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owners —

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- (1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made —
- (2) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders —

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- (1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made —
- (2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit —

WATER CONNECTIONS, 1945.

PARISH	Total	Including Meters	Con- nections during 1945
Brixton	107	5	4
Cornwood	47	3	1
Ermington	61	5	—
Holbeton	3	—	—
Ivybridge	491	26	2
Newton and Noss	293	15	5
Plympton St. Mary and St. Maurice	2254	94	25
Plymstock	3100	139	26
Shaugh	24	3	1
Wembury	273	34	8
Yealmpton	117	21	4

PAROCHIAL DISTRIBUTION OF NON-COUNCIL
HOUSES DURING 1945

PARISH	No. of Plans Approved	Repre- senting No. of Houses	Houses Com- pleted	Layout Plans Approved
Bickleigh	1	1	—	—
Brixton	1	1	2	1
Cornwood	—	—	1	—
Ermington	1	1	—	—
Newton and Noss	5	5	—	—
Plympton St. Mary	11	56	1	—
Plymstock	23	83	—	—
Tamerton Foliot	1	1	—	—
Wembury	7	8	—	1
Yealmpton	1	1	—	—
TOTAL	51	157	4	2

WORK CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR 1945**Engineer and Surveyor's Department**

Rain and river gauges fixed for record purposes in connection with the Erme Water scheme, and trial pits sunk on site of dam and various service reservoirs.

Store buildings at Council Offices adapted for Electrical Engineer's Office.

Ivybridge Refuse tip enclosed by new boundary fencing.

Quantities and schedule prepared in connection with the demolition of Civil Defence Works.

Refuse Disposal

During the year 5,955 tons of refuse were collected and disposed of.

The weight of material salvaged and sold was 249 tons.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR, 1945

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith I submit the following report on the work carried out by the Public Health Department during the year ending the 31st December, 1945.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE AND WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR

INSPECTIONS

Houses inspected under the Public Health Acts	...	...	15
Houses inspected under the Housing Acts, 1925 to 1936	...	1,161	
Houses inspected for overcrowding	...	...	7
Factories	...	...	27
Outworkers	...	...	3
Bakehouses and other Food Shops	...	...	57
Slaughterhouses, butchers' shops, farms, etc.	...	...	208
Cowsheds, dairies and milkshops	...	...	1,326
Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928	...	...	5
Infectious Disease Investigations	...	...	82
Complaints investigated	...	...	154
Schools Inspected	...	...	8
Public Conveniences Inspected	...	...	12
Piggeries Inspected	...	...	12
Camps Inspected	...	...	4

WORK DONE

Public sewers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	14
New drains laid to sewers	...	...	...	...	...	6
New drains laid to cesspits	...	...	...	...	...	7
Old drains repaired	...	...	...	...	...	21
Smoke tests made	...	...	...	...	...	45
Water tests	...	...	...	...	...	2
W.C. Apartments built	...	...	...	...	...	3

New W.C. pans fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Flushing cisterns fixed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Soil pipes and vent-shafts—erected	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Intercepting Chambers built and traps fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Inspection Chambers built	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Gully traps fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Lavatory basins fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Baths fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Kitchen sinks fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	136
Verminous premises disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Defective roofs renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Plasterwork repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Kitchen ranges or firegrates repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Staircases repaired or lighted and ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Courts, yards, or passages paved	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Gutters and downspouts repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Floors repaired, renewed, or sub-floor ventilation obtained	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Water supplies improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Samples of water taken for Analysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Larders	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS

There are now 383 on the registers ; 248 wholesale producers ; 37 wholesale producers who also retail some portion of their milk ; 79 producer retailers and 19 retailers only.

In regard to the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, the number of producers holding licences at the end of the year was as follows,—2 Tuberculin Tested (Certified) producers, 2 Tuberculin Tested producers, and 59 Accredited producers.

2 new cowsheds were built during the year on modern lines and construction.

Improvements to the interior of 12 cowsheds were carried out. New concrete cribs were formed at 10 cowsheds. The yard and approach to the cowsheds was improved at 4 farms.

The lighting and ventilation of 11 cowsheds was improved.

1 new cooling room was built.

Steam sterilising apparatus was installed at 2 farms.

At 3 cowsheds the water supply and drainage was improved.

1,326 visits of inspection have been made during the year, and numerous verbal and written notices have been given to owners and tenants regarding the condition of their premises, and the personal cleanliness and milking methods of employees.

Milk Sampling

During the year the total number of Samples of Tuberculin Tested, Accredited, School and Ordinary Milk, including repeat samples following failures, sent to the County Laboratory for examination was 281.

Of these 144 passed and 137 failed. Owing, however, to delay in transit, 32 samples that failed were out of time and the results consequently invalid.

Visits are made following the failure of samples, and advice given to the producers in question. A leaflet, couched in simple language, is available for the help and guidance of milkers and given to those producers whose samples failed to pass the test.

HOUSING

Housing Inspections.—See table in Medical Officer of Health's section of the Report.

Overcrowding.—7 complaints of overcrowding were verified. 2 families were given Council Houses which became vacant, but until more houses are built, the overcrowded conditions under which numerous families are living will not be remedied.

Rural Housing Survey.—In connection with the report on Rural Housing prepared by a Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee, and Ministry of Health Circular 64/44, a survey of all houses of a Rateable Value of £16 or under was commenced in this district in March 1945, and at the end of the year 1,157 houses had been inspected, and classified as follows :—

Category	(1) Satisfactory in all respects	...	...	313
„	(2) Minor defects	...	...	282
„	(3) Requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement	...	...	467
„	(4) Appropriate for reconditioning under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts	...	...	10
„	(5) Unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable expense	...	...	85
	TOTAL	...	...	<u>1,157</u>

RODENT CONTROL

Much good work has again been done during the year. A large number of requests continue to be received from occupiers of third party premises, and it is pleasing to record that having once had work carried out by a Rodent Operative using the methods of the Ministry of Food, occupiers readily request a further treatment if a reinfestation occurs. There can be no disputing that these new methods are far superior to the old.

32 major poisoning operations were carried out, and, judging by the amount of poisoned bait consumed and the number of bodies found, a considerable number of rats were accounted for. The pick-up in some of the operations comprised 152, 150, 110, 130, 278 and 59 bodies.

The Rodent Operative employed by the Council has made numerous inspections of areas, in addition to investigating complaints, and has advised occupiers on how to get rid of small local infestations. In this connection traps were also loaned. He has also treated the Council's Refuse Tips, Salvage Depot, sewage disposal works and other Council property.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES, BUTCHER SHOPS, AND FOOD PREMISES

Most of the meat retailed in the District is examined outside the district at the time of slaughter.

192 visits to farms and cottages were made, to examine carcasses in respect of which permits to slaughter had been issued by the Food Office. 12 visits were made to Butcher Shops, 4 visits were made to a slaughterhouse.

The carcasses and organs of 196 pigs and 1 calf were examined. The amount of meat and organs condemned as unfit for human consumption was 3 cwts. 1 qr. 12 lbs.

57 Food Shops, including bakehouses were visited, and a total of 15 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs. unsound food condemned as unfit for human consumption. In most cases this was used for animal feeding.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

58 premises were inspected during the year.

PETROLEUM SPIRIT AND CARBIDE OF CALCIUM LICENCES

The undermentioned figures apply to the period from the 1st April, 1945, to the 31st March, 1946.

Petroleum Spirit

No. of licences renewed during the above period	...	73
No. of new licences issued during the above period	...	2
		—
		75
		—

Carbide of Calcium

No. of licences renewed during the above period	...	5
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The total fees collected in respect of both Petroleum Spirit and Carbide of Calcium Licences amounted to £37. 0s. 0d.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. T. FEDRICK,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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